Replanting rehash  
By Mark McKerrall CCA-ON, CCS  
Crop Sales Specialist  
AGRIS Co-operative - Thamesville

Here is a recap of some of the replant challenges farmers faced this spring with corn and soybeans. Corn was being planted into good soil conditions early to mid-May, only to be delayed by heavy rains and cool temperatures.

This left the corn crop struggling to emerge and farmers facing the difficult decision of replanting or accepting what plant stand they have.

One of the factors to consider when replanting is planting date. If you have a plant stand of 22,000 plants per acre of early planted corn you still have a yield potential of 80 per cent.

Stand uniformity is another factor to consider when assessing a replant situation. If you have pockets or drowned out areas in the field, then the solution is to replant these areas only.

Uneven crop stands, due to poor emergence, can also affect yield potential of the crop. Research indicates that yield can be reduced by five per cent when half the stand suffers a seven-day delay in emergence and 12 per cent when half the stand is delayed by two weeks.
Early planted soybeans this year had their challenges with emergence. Cool weather and poor seedling vigor combined with tight crusted soil conditions made for less than ideal plant stands.

Soybeans are even better at retaining yields with reduced stands. Most research suggests that uniform final stand of 80-100,000 plants per acre is enough to obtain expected yield.

*Brought to you by AGRIS Co-operative Ltd. & Wanstead Farmers’ Co-operative*  
Maximizing your return to land, labour & equipment
It was a challenging spring for some with a lot of plant stands being assessed and either ripped up and started over or thickened up to achieve an acceptable final population.

Crop insurance agents and industry people were very busy in helping customers with this process.

My top reasons for poor plant stands:

1) Planting too early before the ground is fit
2) This can contribute to sidewall compaction of the seed trench on corn
3) This delays nodal root development and causes uneven plant growth and plant loss
4) Planting too shallow or too deep that leads to soybeans laying in dry soil or too deep for proper emergence and challenging plant vigour
5) Soil quality, low organic matter, poor soil aggregation, lumpy seed beds, too much tillage that leads to crusting and poor seed to soil contact

For any crop issues and or concerns don’t hesitate to contact your local AGRIS Co-operative or Wanstead Farmers Co-operative crop sales specialist.